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1. The number of Jews who have left Iranian Kurdistan during the last few months is approximately 3,000, and a further 1,000 are expected. They are temporarily housed under somewhat rough conditions in Tehran and are being helped by an Assistance Committee, some of whose members are Iraqi Jews.

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3. Informant's impression is that no organized or general persecution of Jews has taken or is taking place in the Iranian Kurdish area. There have been, however, isolated clashes, resulting in murder, rape, and looting. These clashes have caused the exodus of other Jews who feared that the trouble might become general.
4. Informant considers that the bulk of the refugees (though the initial impetus for their flight arose partly from fear) wish to emigrate to Israel in order to better themselves.
5. The cause of the trouble in the beginning is described as the laxity of the Iranian authorities in maintaining public security, but informant states that "later on" the authorities restored order in a satisfactory manner.
6. Informant's contacts state that the Iranian authorities in Tehran seem reluctant to permit the refugees to leave Iran.

This document is hereby regraded to **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

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